

U.S. APPLICATION 09/508,570

Clean Version of Amended Claims

- 21. (Amended) A method for preparing a stabilized multi-component vaccine comprising at least:
 - a) pertussis toxoid and filamentous hemagglutinin in purified form,
 - b) tetanus toxoid,
 - c) diphtheria toxoid,
 - d) inactivated polio virus,
 - e) a conjugate of a carrier molecule selected from tetanus toxoid and diphtheria toxoid and a capsular polysaccharide of *Haemophilus influenzae* type B, and
 - f) an aluminum salt,

wherein tetanus toxoid and diphtheria toxoid are adsorbed onto the aluminum salt before being mixed with the other components and the conjugate is prepared in a phosphate buffer solution before being mixed with the other components.

- 25. (Amended) The method according to claim 21, further comprising adding hepatitis B surface antigen adsorbed onto an aluminum salt before being mixed with the other components.
- 26. (Amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein mixing is conducted in the following order:
 - a) adsorbing tetanus toxoid and diphtheria onto aluminum hydroxide,
 - b) adsorbing pertussis toxoid and filamentous hemagglutinin in purified form onto an aluminum salt.
 - c) mixing the components obtained in a) with those obtained in b),
 - d) adding inactivated polio virus,
 - e) adding a phosphate buffer solution of a conjugate of a carrier molecule selected from tetanus toxoid and diphtheria toxoid and a capsular polysaccharide of *Haemophilus* influenzae type B.
- 27. (Amended) A method according to claim 25 wherein mixing is conducted in the following order:
 - a) adsorbing tetanus toxoid and diphtheria onto aluminum hydroxide.

- b) adsorbing pertussis toxoid and filamentous hemagglutinin in purified form onto an aluminum salt,
- c) mixing the components obtained in a) with those obtained in b),
- d) adding inactivated poliovirus after c),
- e) adding hepatitis B surface antigen previously adsorbed onto an aluminum salt after d),
- f) adding a phosphate buffer solution of a conjugate of a carrier molecule selected from tetanus toxoid and diphtheria toxoid and a capsular polysaccharide of *Haemophilus* influenzae type B after e).
- 34. (Amended) A multi-component vaccine obtained by the method of claim 27, wherein the composition of said vaccine comprises per 0.5 ml dose:
 - g) 25 μg pertussis toxoid;
 - h) 25 μg filamentous hemagglutinin;
 - 30 LF diphtheria toxoid;
 - j) 10 Lf tetanus toxoid;
 - k) 40 D antigen units poliovirus type 1;
 - 1) 8 D antigen units poliovirus type 2;
 - m) 32 D antigen units poliovirus type 3;
 - n) 10 μg Haemophilus influenzae type B polysaccharide covalently bound to 20 μg tetanus toxoid; and
 - o) 5 μg hepatitis B surface antigen.
- 36. (Amended) A method for conferring protection in a host against disease caused by Bordetella pertussis, Clostridium tetanii, Corynebacterium diphtheriae, Haemophilus influenzae, Poliovirus and/or Hepatitis B virus using a multi-component vaccine obtained by the method of claim 27.
- 37. (Amended) A method of immunizing a human host against disease caused by infection by Bordetella pertussis, Clostridium tetanii, Corynebacterium diphtheriae, Haemophilus

influenzae, Poliovirus, and/or Hepatitis B virus, which method comprises administering to the host a multi-component vaccine obtained by the method of claim 27.